

*1<sup>st</sup> Battalion, 22<sup>nd</sup> Infantry Regiment*

# Regulars, by God!

Volume 1, Issue 7

July 15, 2006

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## FROM THE COMMANDER

Hello from western Baghdad! Another month has passed and we are one month closer to coming home. These past four weeks have been filled with a significant amount of change – and it only reinforces the notion that no two days are alike in Iraq. Just a little over four weeks ago, we were in southern Baghdad and working for 2<sup>nd</sup> Brigade of the 101<sup>st</sup> Airborne Division (Air Assault). Since then, we have packed everything up, moved to CAMP LIBERTY, repositioned forces to forward-based locations, conducted a Relief in Place/Transfer of Authority (RIP/TOA), and once again resumed continuous operations in a new area – now working for 1<sup>st</sup> Brigade of the 4<sup>th</sup> Infantry Division.

Geographically, our new area of operations is similar in size to the area we left in southern Baghdad but we have more combat power available to us now. We are fortunate to have the entire battalion of seven companies back together and functioning as one unit and we have added A Battery, 4<sup>th</sup> Battalion, 42<sup>nd</sup> Field Artillery Regiment and A Company, 412<sup>th</sup> Civil Affairs Battalion to our task organization. With nine company-sized units in our task force as well as numerous smaller-sized enablers, our unit is a formidable fighting force of nearly 1000 Soldiers. The enemy has not recently seen the presence of tanks, Bradleys, and other armored vehicles in this area and they clearly realize there is a fearsome force actively searching for them.

Our vigilant patrolling, aggressive operations, and engagements with all segments of the population have led to clear tactical successes, an immediate rapport with the people, and a foothold into ensuring the local government structures become functional to take care of the basic needs of the Iraqi people. Iraqi citizens are already beginning to see us as friends with a desire to help them improve their lives. That trust is not borne from political decisions in Baghdad, but rather through the interactions with each of our Soldiers.

During the RIP/TOA, we were able to spend some great times with our brethren from the 2<sup>nd</sup> Battalion, 22<sup>nd</sup> Infantry Regiment. We patrolled together, met local leaders with them, and learned the battlespace with their assistance. Their willingness to share what they have learned throughout their deployment will allow us to immediately continue operations without giving the enemy any respite. I thank them for all that they have done while deployed and in support of us and I wish them only the best as they return to Fort Drum, NY and their loved ones there.

We have also had some significant changes in the leadership of the battalion. Major Matt Fath has arrived and assumed duties as our Battalion Operations Officer. He immediately stepped in to his new role and begun making a positive difference on the first day. He and his wife Karrie come to us from the Division staff and his experience there will be of great assistance to us in the future. Of note, Major Fath was a company commander in the Regulars a few years ago when he was Gator 6.

Two companies within the battalion have had changes of command since the last newsletter as

well. On July 1<sup>st</sup>, Captain Sam Olan assumed command of E Company from Captain Patsky Gomez. Fortunately, we will be able to keep Captain Gomez within the battalion for the rest of the deployment and he has already begun work training our partnered Iraqi Army unit – the 3<sup>rd</sup> Brigade of the 6<sup>th</sup> Iraqi Division. Additionally, during the afternoon of July 15<sup>th</sup>, Captain Craig Childs relinquished command of Headquarters and Headquarters Company to Captain Troy Parrish. Like Captain Gomez, we are able to keep Captain Childs with us for the remainder of the deployment and he will immediately begin working in the Operations Section of the battalion staff. I want to personally thank both Patsky and Craig for their leadership – especially while deployed in support of OPERATION IRAQI FREEDOM. Their commitment to our Soldiers and to achieving excellence has been critical to the many successes that we have achieved.

The rapid pace of combat operations has begun again and you may not be hearing as much from your loved ones as you did for the past month. Five of our companies – A Company, B Company, C Company, D Company, and A Battery – are living in less developed locations so their ability to contact you may be diminished if you have had daily contact with them before. Please understand that although their conditions are more Spartan than anyone would choose, their presence at forward-based patrol bases and other locations are critical to our success in this fight.

If you have any concerns or issues, please contact Captain Warren Litherland. He is our Rear Detachment Commander at Fort Hood and his duty is to assist our loved ones in the states while we conduct our mission here. The Brigade's Rear Detachment phone number can be found on the last page of this newsletter. Captain Litherland is doing a great job for all of us – especially during the trying days when the battalion suffers casualties and his personal presence is required to comfort family members. His efforts allow us to focus most of our efforts on the fight in Iraq, confident that he is taking care of so many things for us at Fort Hood and elsewhere. Our Family Readiness Group leaders continue to take care of the home front and we would also fail without them. They have my undying gratitude.

The Regulars continue to set the standard in Iraq and I am extremely proud of each one of our Soldiers. We are truly making a difference and living by our motto of “Deeds, Not Words.” Through it all, your support continues to be critical and I cannot say thank you enough for what you do for your loved ones. Please keep all of the Regulars in your thoughts and prayers.

Regulars, by God! Deeds, Not Words.

— Lieutenant Colonel Craig A. Osborne (Regular 6)



*LTC Brown, Commander of 2-22 IN, and LTC Osborne at the Base of a 3500 Year Old Ziggurat in Our New Area*

## **FROM THE COMMAND SERGEANT MAJOR**

Hello Folks,

Our move to CAMP LIBERTY is complete. Our Soldiers moved in to the facilities here and many quickly moved out to their new bases of operation forward in our battlespace. We completed all tasks associated with Relief in Place/Transfer of Authority (RIP/TOA) with the outgoing unit on CAMP LIBERTY – the 2<sup>nd</sup> Battalion, 22<sup>nd</sup> Infantry from the 10<sup>th</sup> Mountain Division. They were superb hosts to us as we made the transition up here from FOB FALCON and we are indebted to them for their professionalism and assistance. The “Triple Deuce” provided us the historical perspectives on our new area necessary for this smooth transition and we feel confident that we will continue working the area aggressively and helping the people of this new area. We wish the “Triple Deuce” great success in the future and a smooth trip back home to Fort Drum.

Prior to their departure, we conducted a brief ceremony honoring the transition of battlespace between our two battalions. This was a historic occasion as it has been since Vietnam since two of the regiment’s battalions have worked under the same colors in the same area of operations. We were honored to have Mr. Bob Rush, honorary Command Sergeant Major of the 22<sup>nd</sup> Regiment, attend the ceremony and his presence was appreciated and welcomed by all.

As I write this message, the Soldiers of this great unit are doing well and continue to perform their missions with personal dedication and pride. It is truly an honor to be part of this great unit as we continue to serve our Nation during this most critical time in history. The Soldiers have adapted extremely well to their new environment and new areas of operation. Their presence on the battlefield is beginning to be known in this new area as they quickly resumed their steady pace of operations after a brief respite during the RIP/TOA period. We are quickly learning the people, their leaders, and their issues in order to provide the proper assistance to the points that need our most immediate attention.

As we wrap up our seventh month in theater, I again offer words of thanks to all of the families and friends back home in the United States. A special note of thanks goes out to Mrs. Evelyn Bartoszek and the citizens in the Largo – St. Pete Beach, Florida area. We cannot thank you enough for your support for the Soldiers of this battalion. We greatly appreciated everything you are doing back on the home front for our Soldiers and families. Thanks for thinking about us

and keeping us in your prayers. Until next month, thanks for your great support to the battalion, and may God continue to bless America.

Regulars by God!

— Command Sergeant Major Richard Beal (Regular 7)



*CSM Beal at the Victory Base Complex*

## **A COMPANY – GATOR**

I would first like to extend my sincere thanks to the Gator Community for the support shown to the Soldiers of A Company over the last month during this transition period. Things have been going very well and the company is currently on a rather steep learning curve. Over the past month, the company conducted a 35 mile movement to a remote range in eastern Baghdad for live fire training, completed all preparatory briefings and training, and has moved to PATROL BASE COURAGE.

We conducted a “relief in place” with the 2<sup>nd</sup> Battalion, 22<sup>nd</sup> Infantry Regiment which began on June 20<sup>th</sup> and we assumed full responsibility of the Area of Operations (AO) on June 30<sup>th</sup>. The leadership and Soldiers of A Company, 2<sup>nd</sup> Battalion, 22<sup>nd</sup> Infantry Regiment did an outstanding job teaching the company about the area and providing new ideas for how to accomplish our goals in a different sector. Our Soldiers were very receptive and that is extremely important because this area is very different from the last area our battalion was assigned with respect to both the terrain and the enemy. Being open to the suggestions of the outgoing unit allowed us to pick up where they left off and continue to excel, as opposed to making the same mistakes they made in the past.

The living conditions at PATROL BASE COURAGE are not quite as nice as some would like but that is outweighed by the benefit we get from living so close to the population we are here to protect. Another major change is the cross attachment of 1<sup>st</sup> Platoon to D Company. The 1<sup>st</sup> Platoon Soldiers will bring a new energy to D Company and will continue to excel at any assigned task. Additionally, we received 2<sup>nd</sup> Platoon of D Company, led by Second Lieutenant Bryon Vincent and Sergeant First Class Kenneth Griffin, as a replacement for 1<sup>st</sup> Platoon. They bring to our company six months of experience that have and will continue to prove invaluable in the future.

We will continue to spend the majority of our time assessing and developing our area of operations over the next month. The focus of our operations will be continuing to assess the population demographics, its sentiment towards Coalition and Iraqi Security Forces, the availability of basic and essential services, and on identifying the potential enemy forces operating in and around our area. We have and will continue to accomplish this goal through

engaging the influential leaders throughout the towns and villages to ensure that we have an understanding of what is happening around us so we can best determine the proper course of action in the future.

We have had a number of Soldiers that deserve recognition for being promoted over the past month. Their promotion is a direct reflection of the motivation, competence, and commitment to excellence that they have shown during their time in service. We look forward to watching these Soldiers progress through the ranks of the Army in the years to come.

- Sergeant Jameon Avery to Staff Sergeant
- Sergeant Codey Hoefer to Staff Sergeant
- Private First Class Matthew Barnett to Specialist
- Private First Class Jesse Gibson to Specialist
- Private Second Class Roger Epperson to Private First Class
- Private Second Class Kyle Fasig to Private First Class
- Private Second Class Gregorio Garza to Private First Class
- Private Second Class Robert Griffiths to Private First Class
- Private Second Class Rodolfo Martinez to Private First Class
- Private Second Class Timothy Schenk to Private First Class
- Private Second Class David Silbaugh to Private First Class

We also had two Soldiers re-enlist over the past month. Staff Sergeant Codey Hoefer from 3<sup>rd</sup> Platoon and Specialist George Evans, our supply sergeant, reenlisted for Fort Benning, GA. Staff Sergeant Hoefer will be reassigned to 3<sup>rd</sup> Brigade, 3<sup>rd</sup> Infantry Division upon return and Specialist Evans is awaiting his exact assignment. I commend these Soldiers for continuing their service in the Army and this company and battalion will continue to benefit from their service.

In closing, I would like to say that I could not be prouder of these men. They have adapted to a very intense operational cycle and have shown nothing but the perseverance and resolve necessary to win the fight we have in front of us. Every Soldier assigned to this company is fully committed to leaving this area in a more safe and secure state than we received it.

—Captain Drew Conover (Gator 6)



*CPT Conover Promotes PFC Gibson to SPC at Patrol Base Courage*

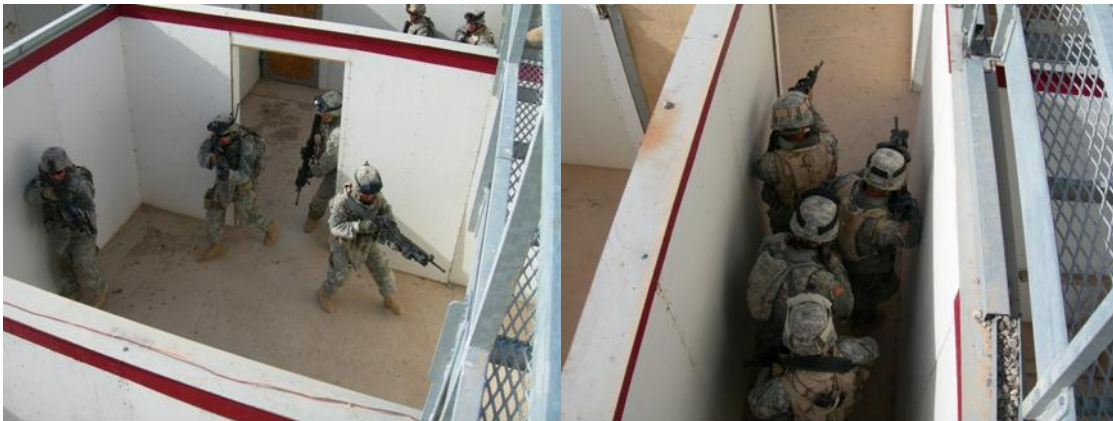


*Our Soldiers Interact with Local Children Everywhere We Go*





*A Company Soldiers Hone Their Marksmanship Skills on a Reflexive Fire Range East of Baghdad*



*A Company Soldiers Rehearse and Refine Room-Clearing Techniques*

*A Company Soldiers Move Through Urban Terrain During Live Fire Training*

## **B COMPANY – BEAR**

I hope this letter finds you enjoying your summer at Fort Hood or wherever this letter may find you. All three platoons of Bears, along with the battalion scout platoon, have moved from CAMP LIBERTY and settled into the Abu Ghraib Interment Facility west of Baghdad. For those of you who have not been in touch with your Soldiers, we are not guarding the prison and have been left nearly untouched by all of the details that normally accompany life on a Forward Operating Base (FOB). Not that this makes our Soldiers' lives any easier – because it doesn't – but it means our Soldiers are able to do the work they came in the Army to do. Our new home comes complete with a DFAC, PX, internet, gym, and phones – services and creature comforts that many Soldiers consistently went without the majority of the time in our last area. We will reside here for an untold amount of time, but are perfectly content for the time being.

During the last week in June, in conjunction with our move, we conducted relief in place operations with three company size elements of the 10<sup>th</sup> Mountain Division from Fort Drum, NY. During this time, we began to become familiar with the people and operations in our new area. The change has been a welcome one thus far. We have been particularly pleased to find numerous paved road surfaces – these make our operations safer and more effective. We've also found the people to be generally more welcoming and friendly than we are accustomed. The society of people we work to secure is still a primarily an agrarian one. We focus not only on

improving security in the area, but also improving the population's quality of life by way of our efforts to improve essential services and the local economy.

As we have passed the halfway point in the deployment, almost all Soldiers who deployed with the battalion in December have now been home on Environmental Leave and our newer Soldiers will be given the same opportunity in the coming months.

Congratulations the following Soldiers who have earned promotions this past month:

- Second Lieutenant Jamar White to First Lieutenant
- Sergeant Andre Allen to Staff Sergeant
- Sergeant Joshua Scheelar to Staff Sergeant
- Specialist Ricardo Otero-Diaz to Sergeant
- Private First Class Donny Brock to Specialist
- Private First Class Aaron Cosper to Specialist
- Private First Class Steven Pierce to Specialist
- Private First Class Brian Smith to Specialist
- Private First Class Justin Wagenschutz to Specialist
- Private First Class Min Yu to Specialist
- Private Second Class Jeremy Stephens to Private First Class

Finally, I'd like to congratulate Specialist Joshua Milstead on his decision to reenlistment in the Army. He will continue his service as a Chinook mechanic upon our return from Iraq. We thank him and his family for their continued commitment and sacrifice.

I ask that your thoughts and prayers continue to be with our Soldiers – particularly our wounded who are recovering at Walter Reed Army Medical Center, Brooke Army Medical Center, and Fort Hood. Thank you all for your support of the Soldiers of Bravo Company.

—Captain Matthew Weber (Bear 6)



*PFC Smith, the Voice of B Company, at His Place of Duty in the Command Post*



*CPT Weber Promotes 2LT White to 1LT at Abu Ghraib*



*SPC Perry Enjoys a Meal in the Dining Facility at Abu Ghraib*



*SGT Fink and SSG Marler Get Ready to Move Out on a Mission from Abu Ghraib*



*CPT Weber and the Men of B Company at a Formation Before Moving to Abu Ghraib*

## **C COMPANY – CHAOS**

After leaving 2<sup>nd</sup> Battalion, 502<sup>nd</sup> Infantry, our Soldiers reintegrated themselves with our parent battalion and caught up on some much needed maintenance. CAMP LIBERTY living is luxurious compared to that of the Water Treatment Facility; with the Soldiers having several amenities they were not privy to in the past. Soldiers are within walking distance from the best PX in the country, a great dining facility, and top notch MWR facilities. Every Soldier currently has a trailer to live in with air conditioning and furniture, a drastic change from living on a tank or uparmored HMMWV. Although our current mission has us living at Abu Ghraib, each Soldier has these amenities waiting for them when we complete our mission in the coming weeks.

About three weeks ago, we received a new mission to conduct security operations at the notorious Abu Ghraib Prison. Upon arriving, we were thoroughly trained in our mission by C Company, 1<sup>st</sup> Battalion, 87<sup>th</sup> Infantry. Since then, our Soldiers have been working together with A Battery, 4<sup>th</sup> Battalion, 42<sup>nd</sup> Field Artillery to secure the site. Each platoon has a separate task which keeps them working throughout the day. The consistent schedule gives the Soldiers ample personal time and allows them to work on improving their vehicles for future operations.

As far as living conditions, they are comparable with that of Camp Liberty. We live in renovated buildings, and space is not an issue despite up to four Soldiers per room. Some Soldiers have even outfitted their rooms with gaming/living room style arrangements. Every



room has been cleaned and outfitted with electricity and air conditioning. We are blessed to have an extremely active civilian contractor unit that is willing to repair any faults at any time. As far as amenities, Abu Ghraib has a dining facility comparable with CAMP STRIKER and an MWR with enough computers and telephones. Many Soldiers have been spending their free time getting some much needed physical training – the gym at Abu Ghraib has excellent equipment with more than enough machines.

Although we are not currently conducting active patrols like some others in the battalion, the mission at Abu Ghraib is a special assignment tasked to us by the battalion. The mission was given to our company because of the confidence the Battalion Commander has in our Soldiers – you should be proud of your loved ones for their notable work over the past six months.

Success is also to be shared with the Soldiers of Chaos, many of whom have been recently promoted:

- Sergeant Dario Noguera to Staff Sergeant
- Specialist Kelley Martin to Sergeant
- Private First Class Joel Maldonado to Specialist

These Soldiers were promoted due to their outstanding potential and performance over the last year. The company gives much thanks to their families for supporting these exceptional Soldiers.

Although it is difficult to be away from those you care about, the support from Soldiers' families is one of the most integral parts to completing our mission.

—Captain Alex Lane



*C Company Tanks Reposition as a Quick Reaction Force in Abu Ghraib*



*PFC Suarez Prepares for a Convoy Atop an Armored Truck*



*SSG Smith and PFC Campbell Pulling Guard from a Tower in Abu Ghraib*

*C CO Tank Moves Out of the Gate During a Mission*

## **D COMPANY – DEATH DEALER**

It is hard to believe that another month has gone by over here in Baghdad. This past month, Soldiers from D Company have completed the relief in place process with both B and D Companies of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Battalion, 22<sup>nd</sup> Infantry. These two companies full of outstanding Soldiers have given us a great hand off to ensure the success of D Company and the battalion in the coming months. I would like this opportunity to thank the commanders and Soldiers of Bushmaster and Destroyer Companies for their hard work and outstanding job in this area.

The Soldiers from D Company took the information from our relief in place and have continued to develop their knowledge of the new area. The platoons have worked tirelessly to learn the new routes and towns and to meet the people of Aqurqf Nahia so that we can continue to develop our portion of Baghdad into a self-governing area. The Soldiers of this company will not have it easy though. Our area has seen some tensions among the two major sects of the Muslim faith and the platoons will have to work hard to keep the people working together and to relieve the stresses. I am confident that we can bring our lessons learned from South Baghdad into this area to continue the great successes this battalion has accomplished.

Our Soldiers have moved into PATROL BASE COURAGE and have established a battle rhythm in their operations. We are lucky to be working with our sister company – A Company – so that we can still see our fellow brothers of 2<sup>nd</sup> Platoon on a regular basis. The Soldiers split their time between patrols, patrol base security, and patrol base details while living here. PATROL BASE COURAGE has a morale phone and a few computers to communicate with loved ones back home. We will continue to put the pressure on the enemy in the coming months while we improve our living conditions at the patrol base. I continue to be amazed at all of the intensity and devotion our Soldiers display in their duties. You should all be proud of what they have accomplished thus far.

This past month, Michele Ramon stepped down as our Family Readiness Group (FRG) leader. She did so in order to take care of their new addition to the family. I would personally like to thank Michele for all of her hard work and dedication over the past year. You have truly made my job a lot easier by looking after all of our great families. Melissa Oberwegner and Jaime Sage are stepping up to be the FRG co-leaders for the remainder of our deployment. I would like to thank them ahead of time for coming forward to help our families through this tough time. God Bless you all and you will all stay in our hearts and prayers until next month.

Regulars, by God! Deeds, Not Words!  
—Captain Jared Rudacille (Dealer 6)



*D Company Soldiers Enjoy Packages from Home at Patrol Base Courage*



*D Company Soldiers Emplace Obstacles on a Key Bridge in the Area*



*SSG Ramon and the Crew of D13 Manning a Traffic Control Point*



*Lining Up Vehicles at Patrol Base Courage in Preparation for a Mission*



*SSG Figueiroa from the D Company Civil Affairs Team Hands Out T-Shirts to the Children of Agraguf*

## **E COMPANY – KILLER**

*From the Commander...*

Dear Friends and Family,

I hope this letter finds you all well and enjoying a wonderful start to the summer. Please let me begin by saying how excited I am to have the opportunity to lead, work and fight alongside some of the very best Soldiers in the Army. Even before I came to 1-22, the reputation of E Company stretched far beyond the reaches of the battalion. The Killers are known as a dedicated and impressive group of Soldiers who have proven, time and again, that they are capable of accomplishing any possible mission asked of them. They clearly demonstrated their skills by successfully conducting a variety of missions for 1<sup>st</sup> Squadron, 75<sup>th</sup> Cavalry Regiment; from scout reconnaissance work to training Iraqi Soldiers, the Killers came through in the clutch time and time again and left Southern Baghdad a much better place than when they found it. I am extremely proud of all that they have accomplished so far.

Though I have been around the Killers for only a short time, it is evident that the reputation they have earned rings true. The Soldiers executed a great many tasks in very little time, and now we are focused on the missions ahead. We are working in a new sector in western Baghdad where we will be conducting route clearances – a wonderful engineer mission. If the Killers prove to be half as successful in our current duties as they were in their old ones, we will come home in less than six months with a great deal of pride in all that we have accomplished.

Please let me close by saying that I am extremely excited to undertake this command. I realize the great trust and responsibility you have placed in me – knowing that your sons, husbands and fathers are fighting a war under my charge. Please know that the safety and welfare of our Soldiers is what chiefly occupies my thoughts, prayers, and decisions, and I will do everything I can to accomplish our missions and take wonderful care of your loved ones. I look forward to meeting each and every one of you in person when we are able, and in the meantime, please continue to show your love and support for our wonderful troopers. God bless!

—Captain Sam Olan (Killer 6)

*From the First Sergeant...*

Friends and Family, June was quite a month for the Killers – all of the Soldiers in the company performed very well through a very exhausting schedule. When we saw on the calendar that our reattachment to 1-22, movement to CAMP LIBERTY, change of command inventories, and Relief in Place/Transfer of Authority (RIP/TOA) with 1<sup>st</sup> Brigade of the 10<sup>th</sup> Mountain Division were all scheduled in a two week period, we knew we had been handed one of the biggest challenges any company would undertake. The Soldiers executed every task required to make all of these missions happen.

In the largest change to our company, we said goodbye to Captain Gomez on July 1<sup>st</sup> and welcomed Captain Sam Olan – who has proven to be a wonderful commander in just a few short weeks. Though we are busy, the hectic nature of the operations makes the days go by fast...bringing us that much closer to coming home.

We continue to send Soldiers home on leave and I hope you all enjoy the time with your loved ones. Please don't forget to keep sending the letters and packages – they mean a great deal to the Soldiers. Thank you for all of your love and support and have a wonderful time in the beautiful Texas summer.

—First Sergeant Willie Hogan (Killer 7)





*CPT Gomez Presents the Army Commendation Medal to SPC Baker for His Recent Actions in Southern Baghdad*



*LTC Osborne, CPT Gomez, CPT Olan, and 1SG Hogan Prepare to Pass the Guidon at the E Company Change of Command Ceremony*



*The Sapper Platoon Outside of the Chapel on CAMP LIBERTY*



*A Buffalo Interrogates a Possible IED*



*SPC Smith Conducts Checks on a Husky*

## **E COMPANY/4<sup>TH</sup> SUPPORT BATTALION – ELIMINATOR**

As changes occur, the Eliminators continually impress me with their ability to overcome shortcomings and adapt in an incredibly busy time. Throughout the last month, there have been

several changes, but the one thing that remains the same is the effort and dedication that our Soldiers have put into making Iraq a better place. Saying goodbye to our home at FOB FALCON and establishing our new home at CAMP LIBERTY marked our mid-way point in the deployment. In keeping with the 1-22 Infantry Battalion motto, “Deeds, Not Words”, the Eliminators left our area much better than we found it. I am confident that our counterparts in D Forward Support Company, 1<sup>st</sup> Squadron, 10<sup>th</sup> Cavalry will continue to improve our old home.

Once again, the many talented Soldiers within our company have stepped up to make their mark on CAMP LIBERTY. Prior to the company’s movement, an advanced party arrived at our new home led by First Lieutenant Joe Baumbach and Sergeant First Class Richard Howell. They immediately began improving our area. Upon the arrival of the entire company, it was amazing to watch the Soldiers continue their “Deeds” in making things better than they found it. Led by Staff Sergeant Mark Overturf, with the help of many others, an additional conference room was built from the ground up attached to the rear of our command post. This has aided in our ability to conduct mission planning.

Soldiers now have the opportunity to live in trailers with a maximum of two Soldiers in each unit. First Sergeant Del Robinson and I have noticed a peak in morale with this opportunity. The Ivy Blizzard Dining Facility is now being run by one of our own – Sergeant First Class Damon Howard. He has done an amazing job in making changes to benefit our Soldiers both here and at the patrol base in sector. Like FOB FALCON, we have a gym, MWR facility, laundry facility, internet café, and phone centers all within walking distance.

With many Soldiers living at PATROL BASE COURAGE in our area of operations, our Soldiers have taken great pride in their necessity for providing support. Specialist Jennifer Hartman was promoted to Corporal and is now running the Containerized Kitchen there. Her team has been consistently complimented for their amazing effort in making life better at the patrol base. We’ve had an addition to our company with a Reverse Osmosis Water Purification System (ROWPU) and three additional Soldiers from A Company, 4<sup>th</sup> Support Battalion. Sergeant Pedro Jauregui and his team have been able to purify over 9000 gallons of water a day to allow Soldiers the opportunity to shower in a field environment and have fit right into our efforts. In addition, we rotate fuelers in and out of the patrol base along with mechanics.

Amongst the busy month, we had the opportunity to promote the following deserving Soldiers:

- Private First Class Martin Ferrufinopatino to Specialist
- Private First Class Robert Green to Specialist
- Private First Class Aaron Holt to Specialist
- Private First Class Brandon King to Specialist
- Private First Class Joel Maldonado to Specialist
- Private First Class Juan Pereira to Specialist
- Private First Class William Rosser to Specialist
- Private Second Class Zamora Beltau to Private First Class

Each and every Soldier in our company continues to contribute to the success of the battalion. I am incredibly proud of their efforts and professionalism in making life better both for the Soldiers of the battalion and our Iraqi counterparts.

—Captain Jennifer McDonough (Eliminator 6)



*PFC Earnheart Welds Barriers Together to Restrict Enemy Movement in Our Area*



*PV2 Fizia Prepares for a Mission as the Gunner of an Uparmored HMMWV*



*The View from the Front Passenger Seat of a Vehicle During a Recent E Company Convey*



*PV2 Kim Receives Mail at Patrol Base Courage*



*SGT Moore Trains SPC Hernandez on a MK-19 Weapon System*

## HEADQUARTERS AND HEADQUARTERS COMPANY – HAMMER

Family and Friends of Hammer Company,

Hammer Company is now fully operating in the battalion's new area – western Baghdad. The company is spread out more than ever with each section providing its own expertise to help the other companies accomplish the mission. Some Soldiers live at CAMP LIBERTY – the largest base in our area. Others live at the Abu Ghraib Internment Facility, allowing them to more rapidly project combat power into the western portion of our area. Some live at PATROL BASE COURAGE – a small but very secure patrol base in our northern sector. And finally a few Hammers live at FOB CONSTITUTION as they train and advise our Iraqi Army counterparts.

The Scout Platoon continued to provide the Personal Security Detachment (PSD) to the battalion commander, and served as his security element as he traveled the battlefield. The PSD continues to safely secure the battalion commander as he conducts reconnaissance of our new area of operations. Our scouts and snipers attached to A and B Companies are currently assisting the Gators and Bears as they conduct area reconnaissance to further develop the enemy situation in their respective areas. Both our scouts and snipers are highly regarded for their abilities to remain undetected as they collect intelligence for future use.

The Mortar Platoon is split into two locations. One section provides responsive indirect fires in support of the Abu Ghraib defense plan – a very important mission as Abu Ghraib is a national-level, strategic target. Captain Scott Wybro and his men have put everyone's mind at ease with their quick response times for counterfire missions. The other half of the mortars are working for B Company and providing fixed site security at a power plant that supplies western Baghdad with electricity – another site of strategic importance.

The Medical Platoon continues to excel at treating combat casualties and various non-battle related injuries. Our medics are true professionals and we rely on them daily to keep our unit in the fight.

The Battalion Fire Supporters continue to provide indirect fires, information operations, and targeting. The FECC section that operates out of CAMP LIBERTY conducts lethal and non-lethal targeting and Information Operations for the battalion and the FECC section at Abu Ghraib conducts both counterfire operations and area denial fires in support of the base defense plan. The Bradley Fire Support Teams continue to provide targeting and effects based operations in support of their respective companies.

The Command Group, Staff, and Headquarters Section supervised the momentous task of consolidating the entire task force, conducting a simultaneous relief in place with four different units, and conducting area reconnaissance to better understand the people, terrain, and the enemy in our new area of operations.

Congratulations to the following Soldiers who were recently promoted:

- First Lieutenant Scott Wybro to Captain (Mortars)
- Second Lieutenant Matthew Parsons to First Lieutenant (FECC)
- Second Lieutenant Jamar White to First Lieutenant (FECC)
- Specialist Russell Jowell to Corporal (S3)
- Private Second Class Andrew Dawson to Private First Class (Scouts)

Additionally, Specialist Brian Suitt of the Medics recently passed the Sergeant's Promotion Board. Our admiration and thanks go to Specialist Rafael Delgado of the Medics for reenlisting and for his continued dedicated service to and support of our nation. Congratulations are also in order to Specialist Charles Dorsey and his wife Christi who celebrated their anniversary on June 30<sup>th</sup>.

Happy Birthday to the following Hammer Soldiers since the last newsletter:

- Sergeant Brian Verderber (S2) – June 21<sup>st</sup>



- Sergeant First Class Stephan Battiest (FECC) – June 23<sup>rd</sup>
- Captain Matthew McGraw (S6) – June 30<sup>th</sup>

I will relinquish command of Headquarters and Headquarters Company to Captain Troy Parrish – formerly the commander of A Company – on July 15<sup>th</sup>. I count my time as the HHC Commander as the most demanding, yet rewarding, period of my career. Your Soldiers have been a joy to command. The great successes of this company are not mine to brag about, but they belong to your Soldiers. I also thank you – the families and friends of these fine men – for your support. Kim, the boys, and I have enjoyed getting to know you all and count ourselves blessed for having been in your company. Kim will continue to be the FRG leader until we move away from Fort Hood sometime after the deployment or until a new volunteer is identified by Captain Parrish.

God Bless You,

—Captain Craig Childs (Hammer 6)



*CPL Carr Promotes SPC Jowell to CPL Outside the Battalion Headquarters While SSG Porcher Assists Him*



*CPL Carr Pulls Security from the Turret of an Uparmored HMMWV*



*1SG Wright, CPT Childs, CPT Parrish, and LTC Osborne Prepare to Pass the Guidon*



*CPT Childs Says Farewell as the Commander of HHC While CPT Griffin Looks On*



*LTC Osborne Passes the Guidon to CPT Parrish During the HHC  
Change of Command Ceremony*

## FROM THE CHAPLAIN

Summer brings with it change. Many of you have already gone on vacations – perhaps some are still pending – and others are beginning summer activities with ACS, CYS, etc. It is important that you continue to live life during this mark of the deployment. Working toward goals and anticipating adventures help keep our minds focused.

Our children need to know the security and predictability of a fun summer vacation and/or activities where they can download from the rigors of the school year. (These also help give the parent a much needed rest.) Creating and maintaining a summer plan will also provide a much needed “diversion” for the family as your loved one is over here. Right now, some of you may be experiencing a great deal of stress and you might be trying to figure out how to cope with all that overwhelms you. If we cannot change your circumstances – then we must do everything you can to change our attitudes. The following are some strategies for coping with stress:

### How do we handle stress in negative ways?

1. *Try harder* – we try to do more of the same, faster and harder; but it results in more of the same
2. *Withdrawal* – we try to handle it alone, keep it inside; the “I can make it myself” approach
3. *Substance abuse* – we use alcohol and drugs to escape reality
4. *Violence* – we vent our stress energy on others, especially family (the ones we love)
5. *Money* – we overspend money in an attempt to soothe our hurts or increase our self-esteem
6. *Work More* – we start earlier in the day, skip exercise and lunch, or work on weekends
7. *Sex* – we try to find pleasure in sex with inappropriate people

### How can we handle stress in positive ways?

1. *Exercise* – expend nervous energy through swimming, jogging, tennis, lifting, etc.
2. *Eat Properly* – keep calories under control and reduce sugar intake
3. *Relax* – slow down during the day, release tight muscles, breath slowly, go to a quiet area, etc.
4. *Read Books* – pick enjoyable books that capture your attention
5. *Organize your Time* – prioritize, stay on track, avoid chaos, plan free time and time for yourself
6. *Quality* – take time to do a few things well rather than cramming too many things into the day

7. *Spontaneous* – allow yourself to indulge in appropriate fantasies, dreams, or a special treat
8. *Flexibility* – allow for plans to change and don't box yourself in to just one way of doing things
9. *Creativity* – do something totally new that will break old ruts of activity – go to a play, concert, museum
10. *Vacation* – take a break and get away – even if just overnight or for four days; but also take big trips too!
11. *Talk* – share your frustrations and stress with a friend, spouse, chaplain, parent, or counselor
12. *Pray* – spend time with God, and feel his care and support when things get hectic

Please allow me to pray for you right now. *“Almighty God, you know the struggles, trials, triumphs and joys we have all experienced during this deployment. You are the God who makes a way when there seems to be no way. Right now, I ask that you would wrap your loving, tender, compassionate arms around our families and loved ones. Keep them in your constant care and quicken our hearts and minds each day with the reality that YOU are taking good care of them. May you grant exactly what we need to sustain us throughout the rest of this separation. In the Holy Name, AMEN!”*

—Chaplain (Captain) John Hill

## REENLISTMENTS

We continue to retain quality Soldiers in our Army through reenlistment. Reenlistment in a combat zone shows a great commitment to our nation and our Army – and the monetary bonuses are tax-free. Although the money is a nice incentive, our Soldiers continue to reenlist because they believe in what they are doing and want to be a part of something much larger than themselves. Our reenlistments this month have occurred at a variety of places including the Crossed Sabers in Baghdad, Patrol Base Courage, the Abu Ghraib Internment Facility, and CAMP LIBERTY. We congratulate and thank the twelve Soldiers and their families that have reenlisted in the past 30 days. Their names are:

- Staff Sergeant Terry Brown (E CO)
- Staff Sergeant Gersain Garcia (A CO)
- Staff Sergeant Travis Parker (E CO)
- Sergeant Codey Hoefer (A CO)
- Sergeant Benifacio Magdaleno (E/4 SB)
- Sergeant Franklin Meyers (E CO)
- Sergeant Juan Zermeno (C CO)
- Specialist Christopher Baughman (E/4 SB)
- Specialist Rafael Delgado (HHC)
- Specialist George Evans (A CO)
- Specialist Joshua Milstead (B CO)
- Specialist William Peters (E/4 SB)





*1LT Mans and SPC Peters Pose for a Picture After SPC Peters' Re-enlistment Ceremony*



*1LT Rawlings and SGT Myers Take a Picture After SGT Myers Re-enlisted*



*CPT Conover Reenlists SGT Hoefler at Patrol Base Courage*



*1LT Goodwin Reenlists SPC Miltstead at Abu Ghraib*



*CPT Gomez Reenlists SSG Brown Near the Al-Faw Palace on the Victory Base Complex*



*CPT McDonough Reenlists SPC Baughman on the Balcony of the Al-Faw Palace*





*SPC Delagdo Reenlists at the Crossed Sabres in Baghdad*



*BG Halverson and SGT Magdaleno Take a Picture with SGT Magdaleno's Reenlistment Certificate*



*LTC Osborne Reenlists SGT Zemenko at Abu Ghraib*

## PICTURES FROM AROUND THE AREA...



*1LT Johnson and SSG Walker Inspect a Bridge in Need of Repairs as an Interpreter Listens*



*CPT Griffin and 1LT Rawlings...Taking a Break for a Minute*



*LTC Osborne Promotes 2LT Parsons to 1LT at Abu Ghraib*



*One of the Many Uparmored HMMWVs That Our Iraqi Army Partner Unit Now Uses*



*LTC Osborne Addresses the Battalion and Explains Our Mission in the New Area of Operations*



*1LT Wybro Patrols the Streets with the Mortar Platoon*



*Iraqi Soldiers Monitor Traffic Along a Road in Western Baghdad*



*LTC Osborne Pins Medals on Recent Awardees on CAMP LIBERTY*





*SFC Oberwegner Leading a Dismounted Patrol*



*Soldiers from 1-22 IN and 2-22 IN Conducting Patrols Together West of Baghdad*



*One Hand of the Infamous Crossed Sabres in Baghdad—They are Modeled After Saddam Hussein's Hands*



*CPL Bryant Receives His Purple Heart from LTC Osborne in the Combat Support Hospital in Baghdad*



*1LT Lane, 1LT Wybro, and 1LT Shannonhouse Prepare to be Promoted to CPT at Abu Ghraib*



*LTC Brown, Commander of 2-22 IN, Speaks at the Transfer of Authority Ceremony While LTC Osborne Looks On*

*CSM Beal, LTC Osborne, CSM(Ret) Rush, LTC Brown, and CSM Huerta at the Relief in Place/Transfer of Authority Ceremony*



*Sometimes the Canal Crossings Are Nothing More than a Pipe*



*SPC Proctor Stands at Attention During the Change of Command Ceremony*

## **HISTORY OF THE 1<sup>ST</sup> BATTALION, 22<sup>ND</sup> INFANTRY REGIMENT**

The 1st Battalion, 22nd Infantry Regiment was originally constituted on May 3rd, 1861 in the Regular Army as Companies A and I, 2nd Battalion, 13th Infantry. It organized in May 1865 as Companies A and I, 22nd Infantry.

Companies A and I, 22nd Infantry consolidated on May 4th, 1869 and the consolidated unit was designated as Company A, 22nd Infantry. The 22nd Infantry was assigned to the 4th Infantry Division on March 24, 1923. The unit was then inactivated on June 30, 1927 at Fort MacPherson, GA.

The unit reactivated on June 1, 1940 at Fort McClellan, AL before inactivating again at Camp Butner, NC on March 1, 1946 upon conclusion of World War II.

The battalion reactivated on July 15, 1947 at Fort Ord, CA. It reorganized and was redesignated on April 1, 1957 as Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 1st Battle Group, 22nd Infantry and remained assigned to the 4th Infantry Division. It was reorganized and redesignated on October 1, 1963 as the 1st Battalion, 22nd Infantry. It later inactivated in August of 1984 at Fort Carson, CO.

The unit reactivated in May 1986 at Fort Drum, NY and was assigned to the 10th Mountain Division (Light). Relieved from this assignment in February of 1996, the 1st Battalion was reassigned to the 4th Infantry Division at Fort Hood, TX.



Soldiers from the battalion have served in combat in nearly every campaign in our nation's history including the Indian Wars, the Philippine Insurrection, World War I, World War II, Vietnam, Somalia, Bosnia, Haiti, and Iraq. The men and women of this battalion continue to serve the nation and uphold the standards established by our predecessors.

## ***Regulars, by God! Deeds, Not Words***



### **1ST BATTALION, 22ND INFANTRY MAILING ADDRESS**

**Soldier's Rank and Name**  
**\_\_ Company/1-22 IN**  
**Unit# 42506**  
**APO AE 09344-2506**

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**BATTALION REAR DETACHMENT COMMANDER**  
**CPT WARREN LITHERLAND**

**BATTALION REAR DETACHMENT NCOIC**  
**Sergeant First Class HERNANDEZ**

**Brigade Rear Detachment Phone Number**  
**(254) 288-2840**

The Rear Detachment Office is located in Building  
10002 on Battalion Avenue at Ft Hood—across from  
Bennett Health Clinic